

REMARKS

Rejected claims 1-2, 4 and 15 are being canceled along with claims 7 and 9, objected to. Remaining claims 3, 5-6, 8, 10-14 and 16 are being amended, all remaining claims now being directly or indirectly dependent upon claim 16, objected to but indicated as being directed to allowable subject matter. Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of these amendments is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Pfefferle, with claims 5-14 and 16 being objected to as being dependent upon rejected claims, but allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response to that rejection claim 16 has been rewritten in independent form to incorporate all of the limitations of base claim 15, and all remaining claims have been amended to depend directly or indirectly upon rewritten claim 16. With these amendments it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-4 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §102 on reference to Pfefferle has been overcome.

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that the remaining claims of this application are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly favorable reconsideration of this application and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance herein are courteously solicited.

Applicants believe that no extension of time is necessary to make this Reply timely, but contingently request that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as is necessary to make this Reply timely, if in fact such an extension is required. In that contingency the Office is hereby authorized to charge any necessary extension fee or surcharge to the deposit account of Corning Incorporated, Deposit Account 03-3325.

DATE: April 12, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



Kees van der Sterre, Attorney for Assignee
Reg. No.25,938
Corning Incorporated, SP-TI-03-1
Corning, NY 14831
Phone: (607) 974-3294